

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
FRANCOIS THOUMY, ET AL. )  
Application No.: Not Yet Assigned )  
Filed: Herewith )  
For: ADAPTIVE OPTIMISATION )  
METHODS, DEVICES AND )  
APPLIANCES FOR THE )  
TRANSMISSION OF CODED )  
SIGNALS ) July 10, 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Preliminary to examination , please amend the above-identified application  
as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 4, 5, 9-13, 21-23 to read as follows. A marked-up  
version of those claims, showing the changes made thereto, is appended.

4. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterised  
in that the blocks of data are transmitted in order of decreasing importance and, where the  
parameter associated with a block of data newly received has not been able to decoded  
correctly, a parameter identical to the one associated with the previous block of data is  
allocated to this new block of data.

5. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterised in that, for said transmission, a signal consisting of bursts of bits is transmitted, each burst containing on the one hand one or more of said blocks of data either complete or fragmented over several successive bursts, and on the other hand the parameter associated with the most important data appearing in the following burst.

9. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that said parameter is transmitted over the same channel as the associated data.

10. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that said parameter on the one hand and the associated data on the other hand are transmitted over separate channels.

11. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that said parameter undergoes the same channel coding as the associated data.

12. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that said parameter undergoes no channel coding, or undergoes a channel coding different from the one undergone by the associated data.

13. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that there are transmitted firstly the values of parameters corresponding to all the blocks of data in the same message and secondly these blocks of data.

21. (Amended) Data storage means which can be read by a computer or microprocessor storing instructions of a computer program, characterised in that it makes it possible to implement a method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 6, or 7.

22. (Amended) Data storage means which is removable, partially or totally, and which can be read by a computer and/or microprocessor storing instructions of a computer program, characterised in that it allows the implementation of a method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 6, or 7.

23. (Amended) Computer program, containing instructions such that, when said program controls a programmable data processing device, said instructions mean that said data processing device implements a method according to any one of Claims 1, 2, 6, or 7.

REMARKS

Claims 1-23 are pending . Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7 are independent claims.

Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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**VERSION OF CLAIMS MARKED TO SHOW CHANGES**

4. (Amended) Method according to [any one of the preceding claims]

Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterised in that the blocks of data are transmitted in order of decreasing importance and, where the parameter associated with a block of data newly received has not been able to decoded correctly, a parameter identical to the one associated with the previous block of data is allocated to this new block of data.

5. (Amended) Method according to [any one of the preceding claims]

Claim 1 or Claim 2, characterised in that, for said transmission, a signal consisting of bursts of bits is transmitted, each burst containing on the one hand one or more of said blocks of data either complete or fragmented over several successive bursts, and on the other hand the parameter associated with the most important data appearing in the following burst.

9. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims [1 to 8] 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that said parameter is transmitted over the same channel as the associated data.

10. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims [1 to 8] 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that said parameter on the one hand and the associated data on the other hand are transmitted over separate channels.

11. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims [1 to 10] 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that said parameter undergoes the same channel coding as the associated data.

12. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims [1 to 10] 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that said parameter undergoes no channel coding, or undergoes a channel coding different from the one undergone by the associated data.

13. (Amended) Method according to any one of Claims [1 to 12] 1, 2, 6, or 7, characterised in that there are transmitted firstly the values of parameters corresponding to all the blocks of data in the same message and secondly these blocks of data.

21. (Amended) Data storage means which can be read by a computer or microprocessor storing instructions of a computer program, characterised in that it makes it possible to implement a method according to any one of Claims [1 to 13] 1, 2, 6, or 7.

22. (Amended) Data storage means which is removable, partially or totally, and which can be read by a computer and/or microprocessor storing instructions of a computer program, characterised in that it allows the implementation of a method according to any one of Claims [1 to 13] 1, 2, 6, or 7.

23. (Amended) Computer program, containing instructions such that, when said program controls a programmable data processing device, said instructions mean that said data processing device implements a method according to any one of Claims [1 to 13] 1, 2, 6, or 7.